

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The present Amendment has been prepared in accordance with a revised format established by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, as permitted in the Pre-OG Notice entitled "Amendments in a Revised Format Now Permitted."

Please amend Claims 14-17, 19, 23, and 28 as follows. In accordance with the revised amendment format, all claims are presented below.

1-13 (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) An image input device for picking up images an image of one or more subject subjects or more by switching of an image pickup direction, said image input device comprising:

an image pickup unit adapted to pick up an image of a subject and to output an image signal corresponding to the picked-up image;

an image pickup direction switch adapted to switch the image pickup direction of said image pickup unit;

a mount table for laying a subject thereon, wherein said image pickup direction switch is adapted to switch the image pickup direction of said image pickup unit between a direction for picking up an image of the subject laid on said mount table and a direction for picking up an image of a subject not on said mount table;

an angle detection unit adapted to detect a change of an angle of the image pickup direction; and

a control unit adapted to automatically store an image signal ~~including a predetermined angle~~ in a storage unit, ~~in accordance with detecting a~~ according to a change of an angle of the image pickup direction detected by said angle detection unit.

15. (Currently Amended) An image input device according to claim 14, further comprising:

a ~~fixing~~ fixed direction detection unit adapted to determine whether the image pickup direction is fixed.

16. (Currently Amended) An image input device according to claim 14, further comprising:

a driving unit adapted to ~~change~~ drive the switching of the image pickup direction ~~of said image pickup unit~~ switched by said image pickup direction switch.

17. (Currently Amended) An image input device according to claim 14, wherein said control unit stores the image signal ~~corresponding to the image pickup direction of said predetermined angle~~ when the image pickup direction of said image pickup unit is switched from a direction for picking up an image of a document to a direction for picking up an image of a person.

18. (Previously Amended) An image input device according to claim 17, wherein said control unit is adapted to cause the stored image signal to be output when said image pickup unit is shifted from the document image pickup direction to the person image pickup direction.

19. (Currently Amended) An image input device according to claim 14, wherein said storage unit has at least ~~more than~~ two areas for storing an image signal, and wherein said image input device further comprises a memory control unit adapted to switch between said at least ~~more than~~ two storage areas for storing the image signal according to the change of angle detected by said angle detection unit.

Amended

20. (Previously Amended) An image input device according to claim 14, wherein said control unit is adapted to control output of the image signal such that the image signal is output repeatedly.

21. (Previously Amended) An image input device according to claim 14, wherein said control unit is adapted to control output of the image signal such that the image signal is output selectively.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) An image input device according to claim 14, further comprising:

~~a mount table for laying a subject thereon, wherein said image pickup direction switch is adapted to switch the image pickup direction of said image pickup unit between a direction for picking up an image of the subject laid on said mount table and another direction;~~

wherein the storage unit is adapted to store the image signal output from said image pickup unit when the image pickup direction of said image pickup unit is in the direction for picking up an image of the subject on said mount table, and

wherein said control unit is adapted to control, at an arbitrary timing, output of the stored image signal.

24-27 (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) An image input method for picking up an image of a subject by switching an image pickup direction and outputting an image ~~signals~~ signal corresponding to the picked-up ~~images~~ image of the ~~subjects~~ subject, the image input method comprising the steps of:

switching the image pickup direction between a direction for picking up an image of a subject laid on a mount table and a direction for picking up an image of a subject not on the mount table

detecting a change of an angle of the image pickup direction; and

automatically storing an image signal ~~including a predetermined angle~~
in a storage unit, ~~in accordance with detecting a~~ according to a change of an angle of the image
pickup direction detected in said detecting step.

29. (Cancelled)

cancel
30. (Previously Amended) An image input method according to claim 28,
wherein the stored image signal is output when the detected change of angle of the image pickup
direction is shifted from an angle corresponding to a document image pickup direction to a
person image pickup direction.

31. (Previously Amended) An image input method according to claim 28,
further comprising the step of outputting an image signal, stored in said storing step, repeatedly.

32. (Previously Amended) An image input method according to claim 28,
further comprising the step of outputting an image signal, stored in said storing step, selectively.

33-38 (Cancelled)
